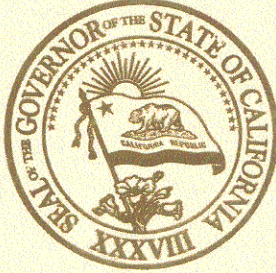

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

In California, drowning is a leading cause of death among children under the age of five. In 2004, sixty-three children in this age group lost their lives in drowning accidents. These tragic statistics must be a call to action for our parents, caretakers and lifeguards, encouraging them to be vigilant and attentive when our children are playing in or around water.

With half of all child drowning accidents occurring in residential swimming pools, parents are the first line of defense against these horrible accidents. It is important that we take appropriate precautions to ensure that our pools and spas are properly secured when not in use and have appropriate safeguards to decrease the possibility of an accidental drowning.

Throughout this and every month, I urge all Californians, in conjunction with the Department of Developmental Services, to raise awareness of drowning as one of our nation's most tragic killers. With the continued efforts of government agencies, community groups and concerned citizens, we can greatly reduce the toll these accidents take on our state's families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim May 2006, as "Drowning Prevention Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 8th day of May 2006.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bruce McPherson".

Bruce McPherson
SECRETARY OF STATE